



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Appln No.: 09/996,208 )  
Filed: November 28, 2001 )  
Applicants: Gregory W. COX et al. )  
Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS )  
FOR SELF-LINK ASSERTING )  
APPARATUS )  
Art Unit: 2665 )  
Examiner: Justin M. PHILPOTT )  
Attorney Docket: CML00090N (69611) )  
Customer No.: 22242 )

**Confirmation No. 1240**

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this date.

9/30/2004  
Date

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**RESPONSE**

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated June 30, 2004, as entered in the above-captioned matter, Applicants hereby respectfully submit the following response.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 7 of this paper.